VOLUME

001

REBUILD WORLD

Manga: Kirihito Ayamura
Original Work: Nahuse
Character Designer: Gin
Environment Artist: yish
Mechanical Designer: Cell

REBUILD WORLD VOLUME.ONE

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VOLUME
001

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Extras

The advanced civilization that once dominated the world crumbled to ruins long ago. As ages pass, the survivors have begun piecing together the fragments of its wisdom and glory as they struggle to rebuild their world.

REBUILD WORLD VOLUME.ONE

Chapter 1

...A HUNTER?

THE SLUMS

A FEW DAYS AGO

MONSTERS ARE COMING OUT OF THE WASTELAND!

AAAA

TAA TAA TAA

BLAM

CRAP!

I NEED A WEAPON!

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN USE TO FIGHT BACK?!

BLAM BLAM BLAM

AKIRA

A BOY FROM THE SLUMS

!

THUD

BLAM BLAM BLAM

THANKS FOR BEING MONSTER BAIT, SUCKERS!

GAAAH!

AND ALL JUST TO END UP AS MONSTER CHOW...

ROBBED.

TRAMPLED.

NO WAY IN HELL AM I GONNA BITE THE DUST IN THIS SHITHOLE TOO!

STMP

A GUN!

SKFF

CRUNCH

GAAAH!

SLUNK

BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
HUFF
HUFF
DAMN IT...!
SLOVE
BOOM
?!
KA-
BANG
DID I—

A HUNTER ...?

RUD

HEY, KID! HANDS OFF THE PRIZE!

MONSTERS ARE ALSO OLD WORLD RELICS. THAT ONE'LL PAY FOR AT LEAST A MEAL.

GRAB!

THIS GUN IS MINE!

HOLD IT, BRAT!

AND LEAVE THAT GUN! THEN GET LOST!

I'll SQUEEZE I'm

I CAN HUNT RELICS MYSELF...

I'LL CLAW MY WAY OUT OF THIS HELLHOLE!

THIS IS KUGAMAYAMA CITY.

ITS MASSIVE WALLS PROTECT THE ELITES IN THE CITY CENTER FROM THE SURROUNDING DEADLY WASTE-LANDS.

POOR FOLKS LIKE ME CAN ONLY LIVE OUTSIDE THE WALLS, AND EVEN THEN, ONLY IN THE SLUMS BORDERING THE WASTELAND.

BUT YOU CAN GET OUT. YOU JUST HAVE TO MAKE SOME MONEY.

MOST OF US JUST DIE.

THERE'S EVEN A WAY TO PULL THAT OFF...

BECOME A HUNTER.

IF YOU CROSS THE WASTELAND, YOU'LL FIND RUINS OF THE OLD WORLD.

I HEAR RELICS FROM THERE SELL FOR A FORTUNE.

THERE ARE EVEN RUMORS THAT HUNTERS WHO BRING BACK DECENT FINDS CAN AFFORD TO LIVE INSIDE THE WALLS.

I MADE IT TO A RUIN...

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

CRNCH

SO *THIS* IS KUZUSUHARA TOWN...

WHOA!

CRAB

I GOT MY HUNTER ID.

THIS IS MY FIRST DAY ON THE JOB. I'M GONNA BRING BACK A RELIC NO MATTER WHAT!

DAMN. JUST SOME KID.

HANDS OFF YOUR PISTOL.

CHAK

DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S GOT ANYTHING VALUABLE.

LISTEN UP, AJIRA!

PLAYING HUNTER WAS THE LAST MISTAKE OF YOUR LIFE!

CRACK

MUGGERS? FAILED HUNTERS, PROBABLY.

THINK YOU'RE A HUNTER, PUNK?

THE HUNTER OFFICE GIVES THAT SCRAP OF PAPER TO ANYONE WHO WALKS IN THE DOOR!

WHAM

IT'S AKIRA.

...MY NAME'S NOT AJIRA.

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

DRIP

?!

NOW THEN, HAND OVER EVERYTHING YA GOT.

HA HA HA! I GUESS A SLUM KID LIKE YOU CAN'T READ ANYWAY.

IT SAYS "AJIRA" ON THAT PIECE OF TRASH. DID THEY MESS UP?

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

...!

ARE YOU...

...A HUNTER?

CAN YOU SEE ME?

HEY, BRAT! WHO SAID YOU COULD DRAW?!

HE'S ACTIN' WEIRD.

DON'T MOVE!

CHAK

WHAT'S WITH THAT WOMAN?! SHE SEEMS LIKE BAD NEWS!

CAN'T THEY SEE HER...?

I SAID DON'T MOVE!

CHK CHK

HEY, WHAT'S GOIN' ON?! IS SOME-THING THERE?!

DON'T TELL ME... IS IT A GHOST OF THE OLD WORLD?

IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, DIVE INTO A BUILDING WITHIN THE NEXT TEN SECONDS.

BLAM!!

BLAM!!

...!

WHAT DO YOU...

TEN...

NINE...

SLOW-POKE.

EIGHT...

SEVEN...

FLASH

"IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, DIVE INTO A BUILD-ING WITHIN..."

FWSH

!

TOO BAD. BYE.

SHIT! THE LITTLE PUNK'S GETTING AW—

FLASH

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

WELL, I GUESS YOU PASS.

ゴオオオ
WOOOOOSH

I'M ALPHA. NICE TO MEET YOU.

NEXT, CLIMB THOSE STAIRS TO THE ROOF.

FOUR...

FIVE...

!

WHAT THE HELL?!

BOOM

UM... ALPHA, RIGHT?

I'M BEGGING YOU... TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON.

HUFF

HUFF

AKIRA!

SURE THING, "AJIRA."

WEAPON WHAT NOW?

LOOK DOWN THERE.

YOU WERE ABOUT TO DIE IN A WEAPON DOG ATTACK WHEN I SAVED YOU WITH MY SPOT-ON SUPPORT.

DOES THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION?

WHAT *ARE* THOSE THINGS?

WEAPON DOGS.

THEY'RE ORGANIC MONSTERS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE URBAN SECURITY IN THE OLD WORLD.

CAN YOU SEE THE FIREARMS GROWING FROM THEIR BACKS?

NANOMACHINES IN THEIR STOMACHS MANUFACTURE GUNS AND AMMO FOR THEM.

HANG ON. BEFORE YOU TELL ME ABOUT THEM, WHAT ARE *YOU*?

...

ARE YOU...A GHOST?

NO.

WHAT YOU ARE SEEING IS A TYPE OF AUGMENTED REALITY.

IT'S AN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CREATED BY WHAT YOU CALL THE OLD WORLD.

WHAT'S... "AUGMENTED REALITY"?

NOW, TO BUSINESS. YOU'RE A HUNTER, RIGHT, AKIRA?

HUH? YEAH.

POKE

???

I'M CONVINCING YOUR BRAIN THAT I'M REALLY HERE...

...BY INJECTING EXTRA INFORMATION INTO ITS PROCESSES FOR INTERPRETING SIGHT AND SOUND.

THEN I WANT YOU TO DO A JOB FOR ME.

THERE'S A RUIN THAT I NEED CONQUERED.

CONQUERED? WHAT RUIN? YOU DON'T MEAN THIS PLACE, RIGHT?

IS IT SOME-WHERE I CAN GET TO?

NO WAY. YOU'D DIE. I'LL BE BLUNT—IT'S A REAL TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.

HUH?!

...I'LL LEND YOU MY FLAWLESS SUPPORT AS AN ADVANCE PAYMENT.

WITH ME, I'M CERTAIN THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT THERE.

BUT...

AND WHEN YOU FINALLY SUCCEED...

...I'LL REWARD YOU WITH A FORTUNE IN OLD WORLD RELICS.

...

BUT OF COURSE.

FOR REAL?!

THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME EARLIER.

BUT MY ANSWER IS *NO.*

ALPHA.

AKIRA?

I JUST REALIZED WHY I WANTED TO BECOME A HUNTER.

THEY LURED ME IN WITH PROMISES...

...OF GOOD FOOD TO EAT...

...OR LIFE INSIDE THE WALLS.

PEOPLE TRICKED ME AND WALKED ALL OVER ME LEFT AND RIGHT IN THE SLUMS.

SO...

I LOST EVERYTHING.

...AND THEN DITCHED.

I GOT FOOLED, ROBBED...

...I WON'T LET ANYBODY EXPLOIT ME EVER AGAIN.

I MEAN, THE MONSTERS DOWNSTAIRS WILL KILL YOU IN NO TIME.

DO YOU WANT TO DIE THAT BADLY?

I'LL BE BLUNT— YOU USED UP YOUR ENTIRE LIFE'S WORTH OF LUCK TO GET AN OFFER THIS JUICY.

YOU'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE IF YOU DON'T SEAL THE DEAL.

IF I DIE HERE, I GUESS I'M OUTTA LUCK.

I MADE UP MY MIND WHEN I CAME TO THESE RUINS.

ALL RIGHT, AKIRA. HOW ABOUT THIS?

NOT THAT I'M GONNA GIVE UP ANYWAY.

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

WITH MY SUPPORT, YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT DYING HERE FOR THE TIME BEING.

...

I'LL HELP YOU OUT FOR A LITTLE WHILE. A TRIAL PERIOD.

WE CAN MAKE A CONTRACT LATER IF YOU DECIDE YOU CAN TRUST ME.

BUT IF I GET EVEN A LITTLE BIT SUSPICIOUS OF YOU, WE'RE THROUGH.

FINE.

TWIST

ALWAYS FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS.

JUST PROMISE ME ONE THING.

GOT IT.

OTHERWISE, YOU'LL DIE EVEN WITH MY BACKUP. UNDERSTAND, AKIRA?

THEY'RE EASY TO AVOID IF YOU FACTOR EACH ONE'S UNIQUE TRAITS INTO YOUR ANALYSIS.

WEAPON DOGS ARE PREDICT-ABLE.

NOW, IF YOU WANT TO ESCAPE THIS BUILD-ING...

...YOU'LL NEED TO SLIP PAST THAT PACK OF WEAPON DOGS.

HOW DO I DO THAT?

OVER HERE.

SO, I WANT YOU TO RUN THROUGH THE PACK AS FAST AS YOU CAN.

KEEP GOING STRAIGHT AND NEVER LOOK BACK.

...YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING.

THEY REALLY DO HAVE GUNS GROWING OUT OF THEM...

ONE BURST FROM THOSE WOULD BLOW YOU INTO TEENY-TINY BITS.

A-DASH

NOW RUN!

DIDN'T YOU JUST AGREE TO FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS?

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

AAAA-AAH!

GRRR-RAWR!

HERE I AM.

TATATAT

KA-BOOM

KA-BOOM

KA-BOOM

BA-DA-

OUT OF AMMO ALREADY?

CLICK

CLICK

KABOOOOM

THERE IT IS.

I'M 100
OSH
GRAAAWR!
THUD
THUD
AHHH...
SLOOOM...
CREEAK

SHHS

SHHS

SHHS

ALPHA! WHAT'S GOING ON?!

STOMP

STOMP

IF YOU HESITATE EVEN SLIGHTLY... YOU KNOW THE DRILL.

I'M ABOUT TO GIVE YOU DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS.

I WON'T LET YOU DIE.

DON'T WORRY, AKIRA.

AKIRA! TURN RIGHT, THEN KEEP YOUR BACK TO THE WALL FOR FIVE SECONDS!

GO BACK THE WAY YOU CAME!

THUD

THUD

NOW RUN!

STOP FOR THREE SECONDS!

RUN!

STOMP

STOMP

DASH

GET YOUR GUN READY. WHEN MY COUNTDOWN ENDS, TURN AROUND AND EMPTY THE MAGAZINE!

YOU WANT ME TO SHOOT?! WHAT GOOD WILL THIS DINKY PISTOL DO?

CLICK

FIVE!

FOUR!

THREE!

TWO!

ONE!

ZERO!

AHH-
HHH!

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

GYOO-
OOO!

KRAK

PHUNK PHUNK PHUNK PHUNK

WELL DONE, AKIRA.

DID I... KILL IT?

I BROUGHT DOWN THAT GIANT WITH THIS PEA-SHOOTER?

IT MAY HAVE BEEN HUGE, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT HAD A TINY BRAIN.

OF COURSE, YOU ONLY MANAGED TO KILL IT WITH THAT PISTOL...

...BECAUSE YOU HAD MY SUPPORT!

A LITTLE "THANK YOU" WOULDN'T HURT, YOU KNOW.

...

DO YOU FEEL LIKE TRUSTING ME NOW?

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

GIMME A LITTLE MORE TIME TO THINK IT OVER.

I CAN GIVE YOU EVEN MORE AMAZING SUPPORT IF YOU AGREE TO MY TERMS. WHAT DO YOU SAY?

LOOKS LIKE ALL THE OTHER WEAPON DOGS ARE GONE.

FEEL FREE TO COME OUT NOW.

Chapter 2

...

AUGMENTED REALITY... A GHOST OF THE OLD WORLD...

THEN I WANT YOU TO DO A JOB FOR ME.

NOW, ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP HUNTING, OR HEAD HOME?

!

I DON'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT HER.

SHOULD I TAKE ALPHA'S OFFER?

I'LL KEEP SEARCHING.

I CAN'T TURN BACK UNTIL I GET MY HANDS ON A RELIC.

NOW, FOLLOW ME.

HEE HEE. YOU'LL BE FINE WITH ME TO GUIDE YOU.

AS LONG AS YOU DO EXACTLY AS I TELL YOU, ANYWAY.

URK...

ALL RIGHT, BUT THE RUINS WILL JUST GET MORE DANGEROUS. HOPE THAT'S OKAY WITH YOU.

ENEMIES ?!

STAY STILL FOR THIRTY SECONDS.

DASH!

HIDE!

...?

KEEP YOUR BACK TO THE WALL AND MOVE SLOWLY.

RUN!

DASH

KEEP YOUR BACK TO THE WALL AND MOVE SLOWLY.

HUH? DIDN'T I JUST COME THIS WAY?

RUN!

DASH!!

CLIMB UP HERE.

PHEW!

NOW GO BACK THE SAME WAY.

NN-NGH!

KI'' SQUEEZE...

HUH?

...

FWSH...

NOW TURN AROUND.

WHY'D WE COME THIS WAY IF WE'RE JUST GONNA TURN AROUND?

THAT'S THE PRICE TO STAY OUT OF DANGER.

...

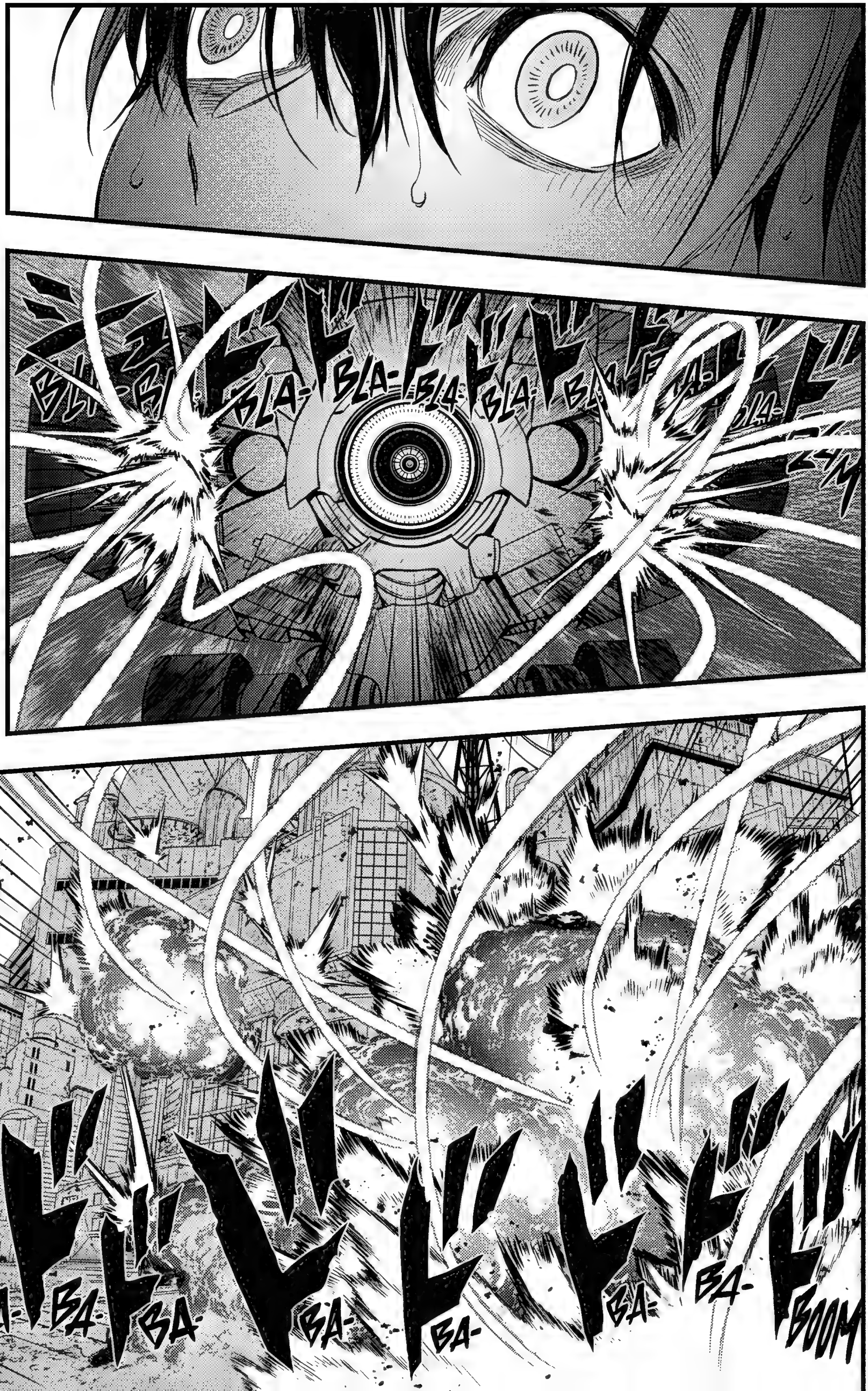
I DON'T HEAR ANY NOISE FROM THE ROAD UP AHEAD.

DO I REALLY HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT?

THERE'S NOTHING HERE...

GET BACK HERE NOW!

ROBOT
ATTACK


BLA-BLA-BLA-BLA-BLA-BLA-BLA-BLA-
BA-BA-BA-BA-BA-BA-BA-BOOM

KA-

BOOOOOM

AHH-HHH!

LI

RMBL

HI

RMBL

BAM

LI

BOOOM

BAM

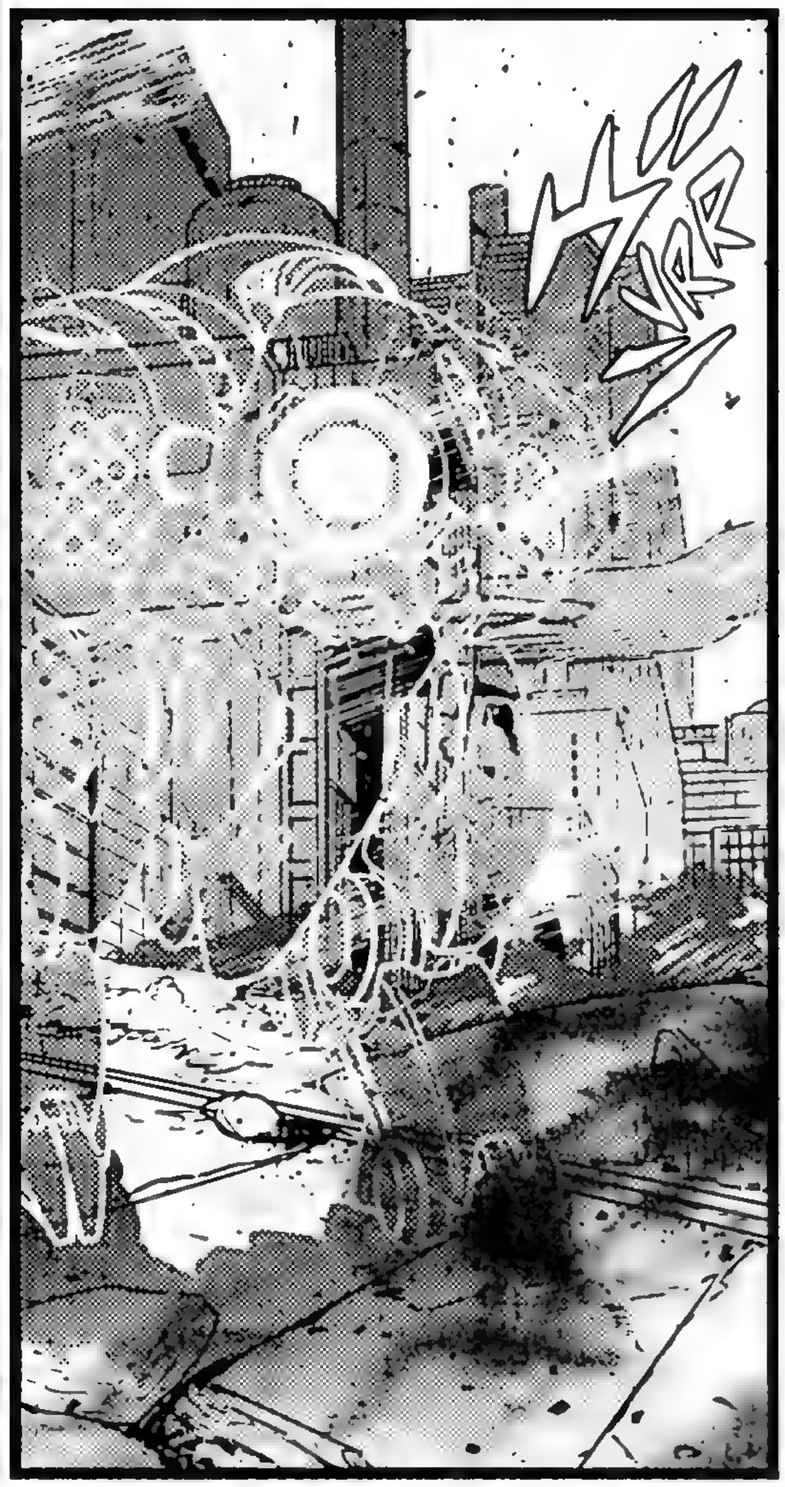
HI

BAM

OWEEN

HO

OWEEN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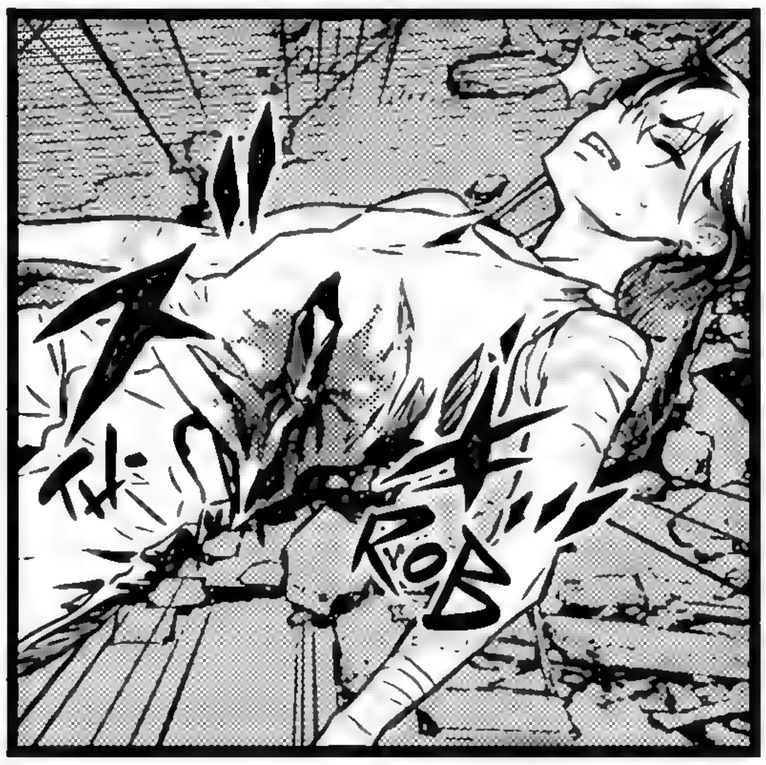

ROB

OW!
TUROB

AAAH!

ALPHA
...

IT'S A MIRACLE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.

THAT *REALLY* WOULD HAVE BEEN A CLOSE CALL IF I HADN'T DRAWN AWAY ITS FIRE.

IF YOU WEREN'T HAPPY WITH MY INSTRUCTIONS, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?

ROBOTIC MONSTERS WITH ACTIVE CAMOUFLAGE PATROL THIS AREA. IT'S NOT SAFE.

OW!

THAT LOOKS BAD... YOU CAN'T LEAVE IT LIKE THIS.

SHOW ME YOUR INJURIES.

SORRY
...

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE A HARD TIME TRUSTING SOMEONE YOU JUST MET.

BUT I'LL BE IN BIG TROUBLE IF YOU DIE ON ME.

SO, I'LL DO MY VERY BEST TO KEEP YOU ALIVE.

AT LEAST BELIEVE THAT.

I'LL NEVER BE A GOOD HUNTER AT THIS RATE.

YES, YOU WILL. IF YOU STRIKE A DEAL WITH ME.

ANYWAY!

IF IT WILL CONVINCE YOU TO ACCEPT MY CONTRACT...

...I PROMISE TO TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING FOR YOU EXCEPT YOUR WILL AND RESOLVE.

I MADE UP MY MIND TO BECOME A HUNTER AND STRIKE IT RICH.

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

CLENCH

I'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE IF I CAN'T EVEN STAY MOTIVATED!

WILL...

...AND RESOLVE.

...FINE.

OW!

NNNGH...

I'LL TAKE CARE OF MY WILL AND RESOLVE.

CAN YOU WALK?

HEAD DEEPER INTO THIS RUIN. I HAVE AN IDEA.

THERE. THAT'S THE RELIC I WAS LOOKING FOR.

AFTER THAT, OPEN A CAPSULE AND SPRINKLE THE CONTENTS DIRECTLY ON YOUR WOUND.

THE NANO-MACHINES HEAL FASTER WHEN USED TOPICALLY RATHER THAN ORALLY...

...BUT YOU'LL ALSO HAVE TO PUT UP WITH MORE PAIN.

ゴクッ

THAT'S OLD WORLD MEDICINE. SWALLOW ABOUT TEN TO START WITH.

GAHH-HHH!

BATTLE

ドクン

ドクン

NGH...

SLEEP WELL?

!!!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

SHIT

SHIT

SHIT

DON'T GET GREEDY NOW. THE WAY HOME ISN'T SAFE.

COME ON, AKIRA. IF YOU CAN MOVE, HOW ABOUT WE "BORROW" A FEW RELICS?

OLD WORLD MEDICINE SURE IS SOME-THING.

WE CAN USE THE MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND THE KNIFE.

THAT SHOULD DO IT.

NOW, LET'S CALL IT A DAY AND HEAD HOME.

THIS KNIFE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A WEAPON.

YEAH, DON'T LOSE A FINGER.

YOU'RE DRESSED SO FLASHY, BUT NO ONE LOOKS AT YOU. IT'S WEIRD.

HUSTLE

BUSTLE

OTHER PEOPLE REALLY CAN'T SEE YOU, HUH?

HM?

NO ONE ELSE CAN HEAR ME EITHER, SO YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE TALKING TO YOURSELF. MIGHT WANT TO WATCH THAT.

!

HERE WE ARE.

A RELIC EXCHANGE

OPERATED BY THE HUNTER OFFICE

HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK I'LL GET FOR THIS? TEN THOUSAND AURUM?

MAYBE EVEN FIFTY THOUSAND?

Sign: We Buy - Ancient World Artifacts

WHAT THE...?!

FOR ALL THOSE RELICS ?!

THREE HUNDRED AURUM?!

SLNK!!

IF YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM WITH IT, TAKE YOUR HUNTER ID AND YOUR BUSINESS SOMEWHERE ELSE.

AJIRA.

GET REAL! THIS'LL BARELY PAY FOR ONE MEAL!

HEH HEH.

GET LOST, BRAT.

ハルヒ

ルスイ

スリ

AKIRA, NO.

AKIRA!

YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL WE PAY THAT MUCH PRE-APPRAISAL FOR WHAT MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE JUNK.

...BUT RANK ONE HUNTERS WITH NO REPUTATION AND NO HISTORY GET THREE HUNDRED AURUM FOR THEIR FIRST SALE. NO EXCEPTIONS.

...

I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT COM-PLAINTS...

'COURSE, MOST NEVER MAKE IT TO THEIR SECOND SALE.

I'M GONNA CLAW MY WAY UP.

COME BACK WITH SOMETHING ELSE.

THE APPRAISAL WON'T BE DONE BEFORE TOMOR-ROW.

ONCE IT IS, WE'LL PAY YOU THE BALANCE WHEN YOU MAKE YOUR NEXT SALE.

COUNT ON IT.

WE RECOG-NIZE YOU BY YOUR HUNTER ID.

LOSE IT, AND YOU'RE BACK AT SQUARE ONE.

...WELL, TAKE CARE.

Chapter 3

ザワザワ
CHATTER
ザワザワ
CHATTER
ザワザワ

THE SLUMS
A RATION CENTER

IF IT DOESN'T KILL OR MUTATE ANYONE, THEY'RE GONNA START SELLING IT. CREEPY.

SYNTHETIC GRUB CHURNED OUT BY DODGY MACHINERY.

AND RUMOR IS IT STARTED OUT AS MONSTER MEAT...

MAN. I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY EAT THAT CRAP, EVEN IF IT *IS* FREE.

I KNOW. BUT I'M BROKE, SO IT'S THIS OR NOTHING.

JUST SO YOU KNOW, THERE ARE MANY QUESTIONABLE SUBSTANCES IN THAT FOOD.

AKIRA.

YEAH?

モグ
MUNCH
モグ
MUNCH

YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR TRIAL PERIOD, SO I'LL HELP YOU OUT.

LET'S GO RELIC HUNTING.

THEN IT'S TIME WE MADE SOME MONEY.

もぐもぐ CHEW CHEW

KUZUSUHARA TOWN RUINS

STARE

HEY, WHY'D YOU CHANGE INTO THAT OUTFIT?

OH? DOESN'T IT SUIT ME?

WHAT I WORE WHEN WE FIRST MET...

STILL, IF YOU WANT MY OPINION, WHAT YOU WORE WHEN WE FIRST MET WAS BETTER.

NAH, I THINK YOU LOOK FINE.

OR WAS THAT A HINT THAT YOU'D RATHER SEE ME IN SOMETHING ELSE?

NO! WHAT YOU WORE *AFTER* THAT! KEEP YOUR CLOTHES ON!

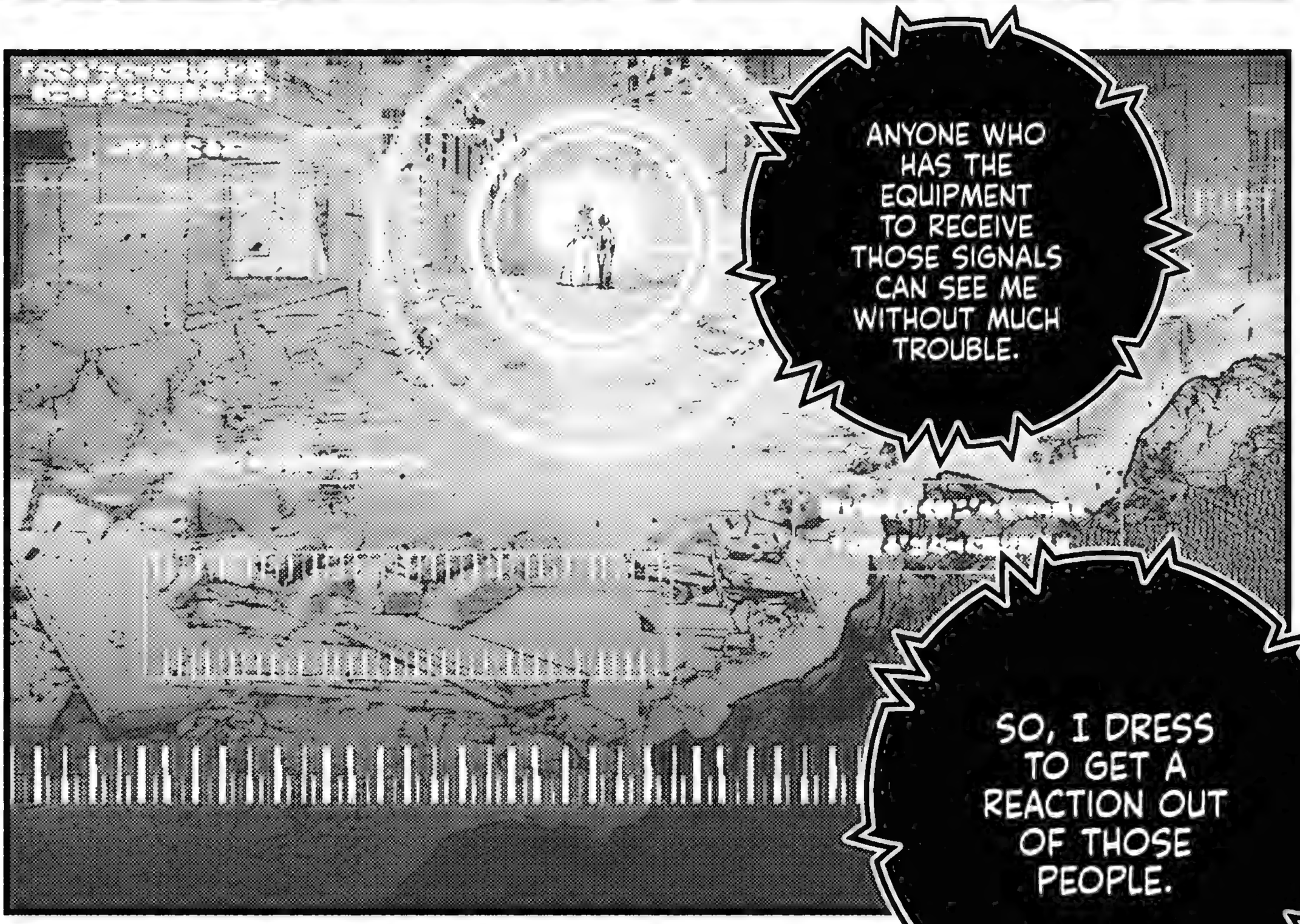
NAKED IT IS, THEN!

BO

CHANGE BACK!

SOME OLD WORLD FACILITIES STILL TRANSMIT AR DATA, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE DAMAGED.
I HIJACK THOSE SYSTEMS TO BROADCAST MY VISUAL DATA OVER A WIDE AREA.
HOW DO YOU MEAN?

FOR THE SAME REASON I WAS NAKED WHEN WE MET.
SO, WHY *ARE* YOU WEARING THAT?


ANYONE WHO HAS THE EQUIPMENT TO RECEIVE THOSE SIGNALS CAN SEE ME WITHOUT MUCH TROUBLE.
SO, I DRESS TO GET A REACTION OUT OF THOSE PEOPLE.

YOU MEAN SOMEONE'S USING EQUIPMENT LIKE THAT NEARBY?

YES.

WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LOOK BACK.

THEY'RE WATCHING US AS WE SPEAK.

TWO MEN.

HUNTERS, AND ARMED TO THE TEETH.

I MEAN, WHO'D BE AFTER *ME*...?

COULD IT BE A MIS-UNDER-STAND-ING?

MAYBE THEY SAW YOU BRINGING RELICS TO THE EXCHANGE.

OR MAYBE THEY BOUGHT THAT INFO ON YOU FROM THE EXCHANGE PERSONNEL.

EITHER WAY, THEY WANT TO STEAL YOUR FINDS.

AKIRA. IF YOU DON'T TREAT THEM AS ENEMIES, YOU *WILL* DIE.

THEY'VE BEEN TAILING YOU AT A FIXED DISTANCE THIS WHOLE TIME.

DAMN IT! NOW I'VE GOTTA WORRY ABOUT HUNTERS TOO?!

FOR NOW, ENTER THAT BUILDING.

TRY TO ACT NATURAL.

ARE YOU *NUTS*?! WE'RE TALKING ABOUT TWO FULLY ARMED HUNTERS HERE!

WE WON'T. WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT.

GIVE THEM A TASTE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE.

ALPHA, HOW ARE WE GONNA LOSE THEM?

SO, LET'S STRIKE A DEAL.

WITH MY SUPPORT, YOU CAN TAKE THEM.

IF WE BEAT THEM, I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.

...

BUT...DO WE REALLY STAND A CHANCE?!

OF COURSE WE DO. BESIDES, IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT THROUGH A LITTLE SCRAPE LIKE THIS...

...YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE AS A HUNTER.

HOW STUBBORN YOU ARE. VERY WELL, I'LL GIVE YOU A FULL COURSE OF MY HELP.

...

STEEL YOURSELF, AKIRA.

YOUR WILL AND RESOLVE ARE UP TO YOU, REMEMBER?

!!!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF MY WILL AND RESOLVE.

AND EVERY-THING ELSE IS MINE.

LET'S GO, AKIRA!

YOU'LL BE BEGGING TO SEAL THAT CONTRACT ONCE YOU SEE WHAT MY AMAZING SUPPORT CAN DO FOR YOU.

HAHYA, ARE YOU SURE THERE'S A WOMAN IN A DRESS WITH THE BRAT?

YOU BET I AM, KWAHOM. MY EYES MIGHT BE PICKIN' UP SOME KINDA OLD WORLD DATA.

THESE SECOND-HAND PARTS SHOW **AR** WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NOT.

YOU MEAN THAT SPOOKY STORY ABOUT THE KUZUSUHARA TOWN RUINS?

A WOMAN THAT ONLY CERTAIN PEOPLE CAN SEE.

SHE MUST BE ONE OF THOSE *"GHOSTS OF THE OLD WORLD."*

BUT NOW I SEE WHAT'S GOING ON.

HOW SO?

OLD WORLD TECH STILL WORKING DOES WEIRD ME OUT, THOUGH.

WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID? SHE'S PROBABLY JUST AN AR GUIDE.

SUPPOSE THAT KID'S BEEN HAVING THE WOMAN LEAD HIM STRAIGHT TO GOOD FINDS.

THIS EXPLAINS HOW A SLUM KID BROUGHT BACK SUCH VALUABLE RELICS.

SO THAT'S IT!

HE MIGHT'VE EVEN STARTED THAT GHOST STORY TO KEEP OUT COMPETITION.

THE ALLURING SPECTER.

A GHOST THAT TEMPTS HUNTERS DEEP INTO THE RUINS WITH RELICS AND THEN KILLS 'EM.

REAL FUNNY. KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS HERE.

'COURSE, I COULD GO IN WITH YOU—IF YOU'RE SCARED OF GHOSTS.

YOU CHECK INSIDE, SINCE YOU CAN SEE THE WOMAN.

I'LL STAND WATCH HERE SO WE DON'T MISS THE KID.

HANG ON, HAHYA. WE OUGHT TO SPLIT UP.

THEN LET'S HAVE THE BRAT AND HIS GHOST GIVE US THE GUIDED TOUR!

GRICK

CRACK

...

...I PRAY I'M WORRYING FOR NOTHING.

SORRY, BUT I'M SITTING THIS ONE OUT. I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING IT'S A TRAP.

OF COURSE...

!

KWAHOM, I FOUND THE WOMAN.

HE MIGHT BE NEARBY. WATCH YOUR BACK.

NO, SHE'S ALONE.

IS THE KID WITH HER?

SURE CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THAT ASS.

"ALLURING" IS RIGHT.

I KNOW, I KNOW. I'M NOT THAT STUPID.

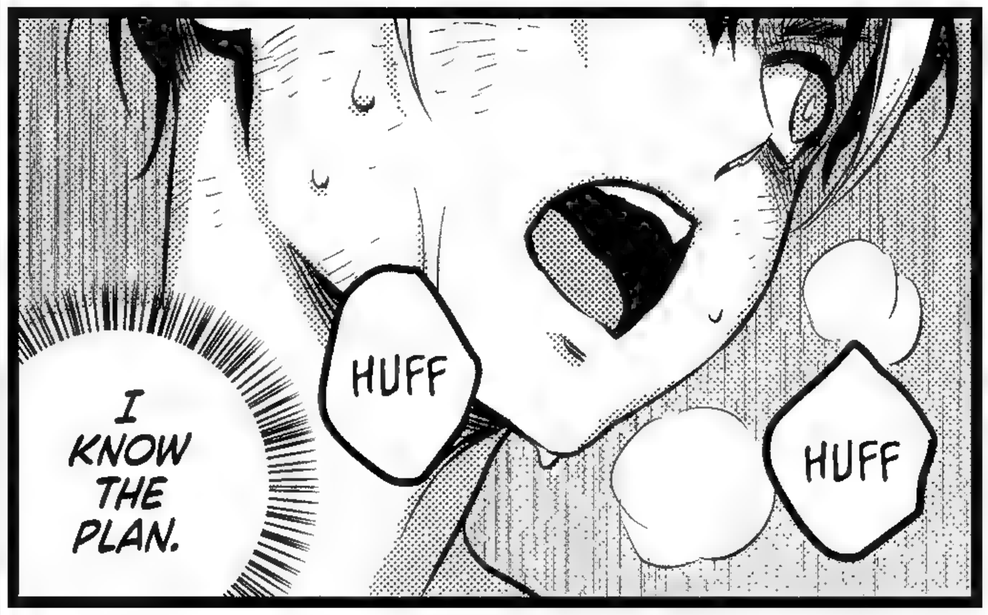
SHE SURE IS FAST.

WHERE IS SHE GOIN'?

HUFF

HUFF

!!!
ナーKLUMP
ニーKLUMP


I KNOW THE PLAN.
HUFF
HUFF

I CAN SHOW MYSELF LONG ENOUGH TO FIRE THREE SHOTS.
THEN, AS LONG AS I FOLLOW INSTRUC-TIONS...
KLUMP
KLUMP

HM?

WH...

WHOA!

WHAT A SUR-PRISE.

YOU'RE ONE HELL OF A WOMAN.

KLUMP

KLUMP

ALPHA! GIVE THE SIGNAL ALREADY!

...

SHIT! I CAN'T TOUCH HER! WHAT A TEASE!

QUIVER

YOU LOOK JUST LIKE THE REAL THING!

OH MAN...

CLENCH

NOT YET, AKIRA!

NO!

KABOOM

THAT LITTLE SHIT!

!!!

!!!

HEY, HAHYA. THAT WOMAN REALLY MUST BE SOME KIND OF GUIDE.

A TRAP? I KNEW IT.

WHAT'S WRONG, HAHYA?!

...THE BRAT GOT THE DROP ON ME WHILE I WAS FOCUSED ON THE WOMAN.

YOU BONE-HEAD!

KWAHOM... WELL, YOU SEE...

THEN WE'RE IN LUCK.

HANG ON, KWAHOM. THE WOMAN'S STILL STANDIN' HERE.

SHE CAN DO THAT TOO?!

SHE PROBABLY TAKES SIMPLE COMMANDS. I BET THE KID USED HER TO LURE YOU IN.

SOUNDS LIKE FUN!

!!!

USE HER TO TURN THE TABLES ON THAT LITTLE PUNK!

CRAP! HE WAS RIGHT THERE, AND I STILL COULDN'T LAND A CLEAN HIT...!

ｱﾅﾀｶﾞ

HUFF

HUFF

ｽﾞｷﾞｭﾝ

ｽﾞｷﾞｭﾝ

ｽﾞｷﾞｭﾝ

HOW'S YOUR WOUND?

WHY DIDN'T YOU FOLLOW MY INSTRUC-TIONS?

ALPHA.

NN-NGH!

NNNG-AAAH!

RECOVERY CAPSULES? YOU DON'T WASTE ANY TIME.

STICK TO THE PLAN NEXT TIME, OKAY?

...SORRY. I THOUGHT I HAD A SHOT.

SSSS

SSSS

I'M LEADING THIS HUNTER YOUR WAY, SO GET IN POSITION.

SURE.

RESOLVE IS PART OF MY JOB.

BUT BRACE YOURSELF— THIS NEXT PART IS A BIT RISKY.

LEAVE THE REST TO ME. WE'LL KILL HIM THIS TIME.

HEY. HOW FAR ARE WE GOING?

HM? IS THE BRAT IN THAT ROOM?

BLOOD STAINS ?!

FOUND HIM!

HYA-HAAA!

TA TA TA

?

WHERE'S THE BRAT?

WHAT THE HELL?! YOU SAID HE WAS IN HERE!

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

ザッ

ザッ

ザッ

チャキ

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

SHE SHOT ME?! SHE CAN'T HAVE! I KNOW SHE'S JUST AN IMAGE...!

I GOT SHOT?!

COUGH COUGH COUGH

THUD

?!

WAS IT ALL A SETUP?

SHE WAS LAYERED OVER THE BRAT...?!

THE ALLURING... SPECTER...

ALL THIS

Chapter 4

FIIIEEE★"A

THUD

WHAT THE HELL HAP-PENED?! HAHYA!

HAHYA ?!

NOW TOSS HIS BODY OUT THAT WINDOW.

RUSTLE
カチャカチャ
RUSTLE

QUICK. TAKE HIS GEAR.

THE MORE WEAPONS, THE BETTER.

WOW... WE REALLY BEAT HIM.

BINGO. HURRY UP.

WE'RE JUST GONNA DUMP HIM?

SLIDE... ドサッ

SLIDE ドサッ

ドサッ SLIDE

DON'T TELL ME HAHYA GOT HIMSELF-

THEN I LOST CONTACT.

THOSE GUNSHOTS MEAN THERE WAS A FIGHT.

IS THAT LITTLE SHIT TAUNTING ME?

HAHYA ?!

HE'S GONNA PAY!

ポチ ポチ ポチ…

YOU MEAN THIS?

AKIRA, TAKE OUT THE KNIFE WE FOUND IN THE RUINS LAST TIME.

THE ONE I TOLD YOU NOT TO SELL.

KNIFE?

WON'T THAT BREAK IT?

SHOOT THE BUMP ON THE HANDLE WITH YOUR HANDGUN.

WOULD YOU PREFER MY BACKUP PLAN? IT INVOLVES THREE CLOSE BRUSHES WITH DEATH.

THIS IS A RELIC, RIGHT? SEEMS LIKE A WASTE NOT TO SELL IT.

WE'LL USE IT TO KILL THE OTHER HUNTER.

I'M BANG

IF THE KID HAS THAT WOMAN WITH HIM, HE PROBA-BLY KNOWS WHERE I AM.

HMM FWID

ZOOM IN

HAHYA'S TERMINAL IS ON THE MOVE?

HEH HEH. HE CAN TRACK ME, BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW I CAN TRACK HIM.

THAT GIVES ME AN EDGE.

THE BRAT MUST'VE TAKEN IT ALONG WITH HIS WEAPONS.

I'LL TURN THE TABLES ON HIM!

THAT'S HAHYA'S TERMINAL!

?!

DID HE DROP IT TO LOSE ME?

BUT THERE'S NOWHERE TO HIDE.

OR IS THIS A TRAP?

HE SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO AMBUSH ME IN THIS-

ゴッ
SST
ゴッ
SST
ガッ
CRACK
CRACK
SLIDE...

G-
GAH...

AH...

KER-

SPLAT

THUNK

SSS

THE KNIFE'S DISINTE-GRATING?

SSS

GOOD, YOU GOT HIM. IT'S SAFE NOW.

ALPHA, WHAT *WAS* THAT KNIFE ANYWAY?

WE BROKE THE SAFETY SO YOU COULD USE IT AT MAX POWER JUST ONCE.

AN OLD WORLD KNIFE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO TELL YOU.

HOW CAN I WATCH FOR *THAT?*

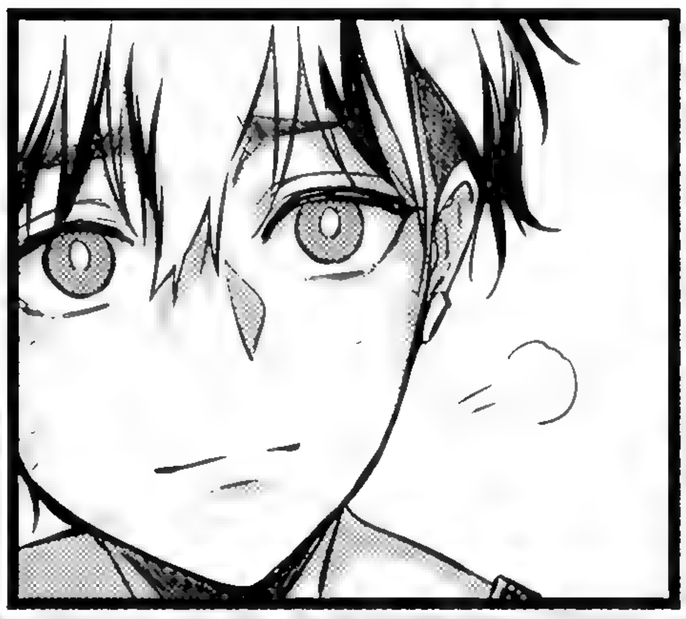
YUP. SO WATCH OUT.

SOMEDAY SOMEONE MIGHT SLICE *YOU* IN HALF THROUGH A WALL TOO.

ARE THINGS LIKE THAT JUST LYING AROUND EVERY-WHERE?

OLD WORLD RELICS SURE ARE SOME-THING.

CLICK CLICK CLICK



FEEL FREE TO SHOWER ME WITH THANKS ANY TIME NOW.
JUST REMEMBER— MY SUPPORT MADE ALL THIS POSSIBLE.

YEAH, I'D BE DEAD WITHOUT YOU.
THANKS.

NOW, LET'S GRAB A FEW RELICS AND HEAD BACK TO THE CITY.

I HEAR THEY FOUND A HUGE WEAPON DOG CORPSE NEAR HERE RECENTLY.

SOME SAY FIVE METERS, SOME TEN. EITHER WAY, A BIG ONE.

NO WAY. UNLESS YOU'RE SAYIN' SOMEBODY LURED IT OUT AND SICCED IT ON 'EM.

NAH, IT'S TRUE. I HEARD IT TOOK OUT A WHOLE TEAM.

WHO'RE YOU KIDDING? THOSE THINGS ONLY LIVE DEEP IN THE RUINS.

SPEAKIN' OF GHOSTS, AIN'T THERE A GHOST STORY ABOUT THIS AREA?

"THE ALLURING SPECTER" OR SOME-THING.

THEN AGAIN, MAYBE THEY DIED AND KEPT WORKIN' AS A GHOST.

YOU THINK SOMEONE BROUGHT IT ALONG TO COVER UP A FIGHT BETWEEN HUNTERS?

THAT MAKES EVEN LESS SENSE. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT'D BE TO TRANSPORT A MONSTER THAT SIZE?

YOU'D NEVER ARRIVE IN ONE PIECE.

HA HA... LAY OFF THE JOKES.

...

...

IF YOU'VE GOT A HUNTER ID, GET IT—

KUGAMAYAMA CITY
LOWER DISTRICT
HUNTER OFFICE
RELIC EXCHANGE

WHAT, *YOU* AGAIN?

ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM.

WAIT, "LUCKY"?

THIS RELIC'S A BIT... IFFY.

WERE YOU JUST LUCKY LAST TIME?

IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, TOUGH. IT'S STILL AN OLD WORLD RELIC.

SO HAND OVER MY MONEY FOR THE LAST BATCH.

SLAP

LAST TIME'S BALANCE, PLUS YOUR ADVANCE FOR THIS TIME, MAKES...

ドン

NOT MANY KIDS AROUND HERE MAKE THIS KIND OF MONEY, YOU KNOW. SPEND IT WISELY.

ガク SHAKE

ガク SHAKE—

...200,000 AURUM.

NOW, GO ON. SCRAM.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! THIS IS 200,000 AURUM! A FORTUNE!

P-POCKET CHANGE?

WHISPER

NO, IT'S POCKET CHANGE.

YOU NEED TO UNDER-STAND ITS TRUE VALUE.

ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU ALMOST DIED EARNING IT, EVEN WITH MY HELP.

CALM DOWN, AKIRA.

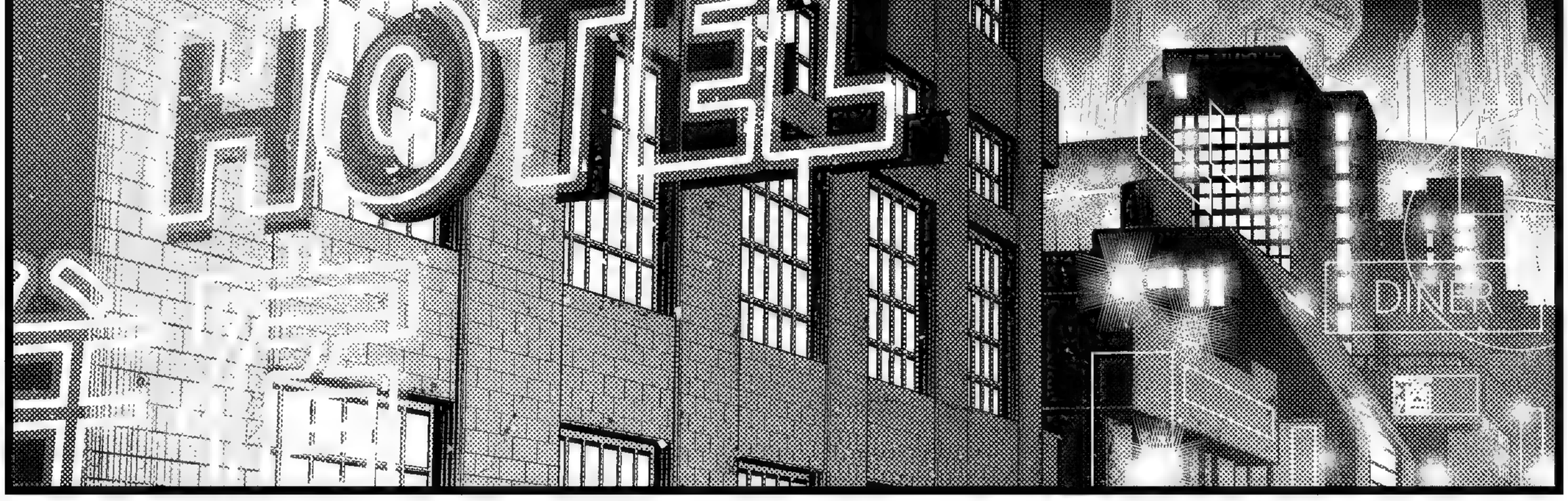
YOU WON'T LAST LONG IF YOU LET POCKET CHANGE LIKE THAT RATTLE YOU.

GLANCE GLANCE

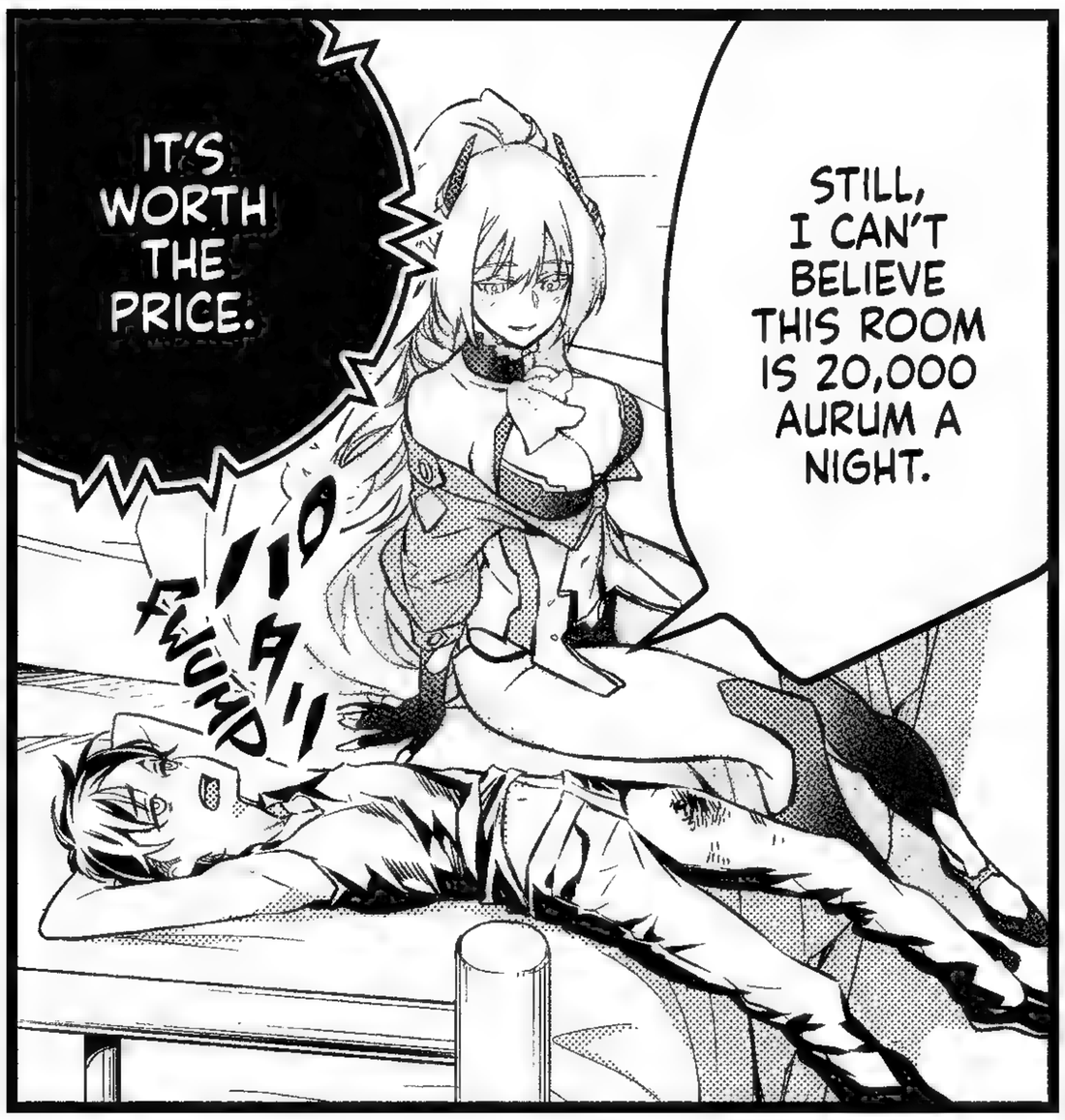
MY SUPPORT INCLUDES TEACHING YOU TO SPEND WISELY.

ANYWAY, YOU'RE WORN OUT FROM HUNTING, SO LET'S GO TO A HOTEL.

E-EASY FOR YOU TO SAY.


HOTEL
DINER

THIS PLACE IS HUGE... MAKES ME NERVOUS.


IT'S WORTH THE PRICE.
STILL, I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS ROOM IS 20,000 AURUM A NIGHT.
FWUMP!

YEAH, I KNOW.
GET USED TO IT. YOU CAN'T SLEEP IN AN ALLEY WITH 200,000 AURUM, NOW, CAN YOU?

HOW ABOUT A NICE, RELAXING BATH TO START WITH?

OR... Tee Hee!

...WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAMPLE SOME ***NON-COMBAT*** SUPPORT?

ドサッ

JUMP!!

YEAH! A BATH!

A BATH ...?

WHO CARES? THIS BATH IS AWESOME.

20,000 AURUM A NIGHT, HUH...?

ちゃぷん

HOW'S THE WATER?

SO YOU'RE VIRTUAL, BUT YOU CAN STILL TAKE BATHS?

MY NUDE BODY ISN'T SPARKING YOUR INTEREST, HUH?

ALPHA... WHY ARE YOU NAKED?

WHO TAKES A BATH WITH THEIR CLOTHES ON?

UM, ALPHA.

YES, AKIRA?

ざぱっ SLOSH

YEAH, YEAH.

YOU'LL DROWN IF YOU DOZE OFF IN THE TUB. SAVE YOUR SLEEPING FOR BED.

YOU KNOW THAT RUIN YOU WANT CONQUERED?

I'LL TAKE THE JOB.

PRETTY MUCH, YEAH.

SO YOU'RE WILLING TO TRUST ME?

STILL, I WON'T BE MASTERING ANY RUINS THE WAY I AM NOW.

WILL YOU WAIT UNTIL I GET STRONGER?

CLACK

SURE, GOT IT.

ALL RIGHT. WE'LL START BY GETTING YOU SOME PROPER GEAR.

すーーーー

すーーーー

"Shock!"

...? WAIT, WHERE AM I?!

IN THE HOTEL ROOM YOU BOOKED LAST NIGHT, REMEMBER?

GOOD MORNING, AKIRA. I SEE YOU SLEPT WELL.

GET A BITE TO EAT, AND THEN WE'LL GO EQUIPMENT SHOPPING.

CARTRIDGE FREAK
HUNTING SUPPLY SHOP
LOWER DISTRICT

WELCOME TO CARTRIDGE FREAK.

IS THIS YOUR FIRST VISIT?

I'M SHIZUKA, THE PROPRIETOR. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

(IS) THIS BOY A HUNTER? (HE LOOKS LIKE A KID FROM THE SLUMS.

OH, AND I'D LIKE TO SELL THESE.

ONE AAH WITH AMMO AND MAINTENANCE TOOLS, PLEASE.

ガシャ
CLATTER

THAT'S FINE. I'LL SELL IT AND BUY A NEW ONE.

YOU'LL BE USING THIS RIFLE FOR A LONG TIME, SO BUY NEW. YOU DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH SOME-ONE ELSE'S QUIRKS.

ONE OF THE WEAPONS YOU'RE SELLING IS AN AAH.

IT COULD STILL BE USABLE WITH PROPER MAINTE-NANCE.

ALL RIGHT. IN THAT CASE, MINUS THE PRICE OF WHAT YOU'RE SELLING...

...THAT WILL BE 100,000 AURUM.

HERE ARE THE ITEMS YOU REQUESTED.

ALSO, WHY DON'T YOU TRY THESE ON?

?

THE AAH IS AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, AND EASY TO MAIN-TAIN.

IT'S A MASTER-PIECE, AND POPULAR WITH HUNTERS.

THERE. THESE PROTECTIVE CLOTHES ARE A BIT BIG ON YOU, BUT NOTHING A FEW ADJUSTMENTS CAN'T FIX.

IF YOU WANT TO PAY ME BACK...

...BECOME A REGULAR AND HELP ME KEEP THIS PLACE IN THE BLACK.

I'LL THROW THOSE IN FOR FREE.

THEY'RE TOO OLD TO SELL, ANYWAY.

ARE YOU SURE?

A CHILD HUNTER, HUH?

I GOT IT. THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.

I HOPE HE'LL LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO BECOME A REGULAR.

NEXT UP-FIRING PRACTICE.

I'LL DO MY BEST TOO.

WE HAVE A FORMAL CONTRACT NOW, SO I'LL SUPPORT YOU ANY WAY I CAN.

I REALLY DO.

SO YOU'RE WILLING TO TRUST ME?

...

ALPHA WANTS ME TO EXPLORE THAT RUIN FOR HER, NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES.

I CAN TELL SHE WASN'T LYING.

BUT WHEN I GOT HURT IN THE RUINS, SHE SAID SHE'D DO HER BEST TO KEEP ME ALIVE.

TO BE HONEST, ALPHA'S STILL AS SHADY AS EVER.

BUT IF WE EVER MEET A STRONG HUNTER WHO CAN SEE HER...

...SHE MIGHT DITCH ME.

SO I'VE GOT TO GET STRONGER.

AND I WILL CLAW MY WAY UP!

LET'S GET RIGHT TO THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF OUR AGREEMENT. LISTEN CAREFULLY.

OKAY ...?

AKIRA.

MAY I PERFORM DIVERSE OPERATIONS ON YOU WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT OR EXPLANATION TO FACILITATE MORE SOPHISTICATED SUPPORT?

HUH?

THIS INCLUDES THE ACQUISITION AND USE OF TIER 5 PERSONAL INFORMATION WITHOUT CONSENT. FURTHER EXPLANATION IS OPTIONAL.

...UNDER ARTICLE 213,873 OF THE SELF-SUFFICIENCY SELF-RESTRICTION ACT.

I WILL REGISTER YOUR CONSENT...

...TO ALL CLAUSES MEETING THE GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

...THAT I PRESENT ARTICLES IN AN ORDER OF PRIORITY...

...ESTABLISHED USING...

...REGULATION AWARENESS COMPUTATION METHOD A887.

YOU WOULD REQUIRE ~120 YEARS TO GAIN A GENERAL COMPREHENSION OF THESE REGULATIONS...

...AND THEIR CLAUSES VIA VERBAL EXPLANATION.

I CURRENTLY CANNOT CALCULATE THE TIME REQUIRED...

...FOR IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE.

THE BIAS AVOIDANCE ACT STIPULATES...

THIS INCLUDES ALL PROVISIONS CONCERNING SPECIAL COLLABORATORS...

...IN NON-QUALIFIED REGIONS.

SIMULTANEOUSLY...

...

...

THIS INCLUDES MENTAL GUIDANCE IN THE NARROW SENSE...

...AND INTERFERENCE WITH FREE WILL MORE BROADLY.

PRESERVATION OF THE SUBJECT'S LIFE AND THOUGHTS...

...IS EQUIVALENT TO THE RESTRICTIONS ON LIFE AND THOUGHT...

TO GAIN A GENERAL COMPREHENSION OF THESE REGULATIONS AND THEIR CLAUSES...

...VIA VERBAL EXPLANATION OF RELEVANT ARTICLES, YOU WOULD REQUIRE-

THIS INCLUDES THE ACQUISITION AND USE OF TIER 5 PERSONAL INFORMATION...

...WITHOUT CONSENT.

FURTHER EXPLANATION IS OPTIONAL.

YOU WOULD REQUIRE ~120 YEARS TO GAIN A GENERAL COMPREHENSION OF THESE REGULATIONS...

...AND THEIR CLAUSES VIA VERBAL...

I REPEAT—

MAY I PERFORM DIVERSE OPERATIONS ON YOU...

...WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT OR EXPLANATION...

...TO FACILITATE MORE SOPHISTICATED SUPPORT?

To Be Continued in Volume 2...

Rebuild World

Glossary

Slums

A district housing the poorest of the poor. An abundance of cheap guns keeps this lawless zone extremely dangerous.

Monsters

Animals, robots, and other threats that attack travelers in the wasteland. Most are products of Old World technology—war machines, security systems, bioweapons, livestock, and pets that have gone haywire or run wild, making them a menace to modern humans.

Hunters

Those who venture into the wasteland in search of fame and fortune, battling monsters to retrieve relics from the ruins. The very best hunters wield more political and military might than entire cities.

Cities

Metropolises under the management of governing corporations. Kugamayama City is but one of many. Its protective walls enclose the elite district, home to corporate executives and other wealthy and powerful individuals, and the middle district, where the merely affluent reside. The walls clearly mark the border between them and the lower district and slums outside.

Wastelands

Barren lands unfit for human habitation. These danger zones are crawling with monsters but also contain ruins of the Old World.

Old World

An advanced civilization that once dominated the planet; also the period of that civilization's prosperity. Its mind-boggling technology was indistinguishable from magic.

Ruins

Old World cities and the structures that comprise them. Most collapsed into rubble long ago. Valuable relics lie within.

Aurum

Corporate currency issued by Sakashita Heavy Industries, one of the Big Five.

Augmented Reality

Computer technology that enhances perception of real-world environments.

Active Camouflage

Technology that renders its subject invisible to the eye.

Nanomachines

Technically, any nanometer-scale machine. Also used informally in the East for products of Old World technology thought to use nanomachines. The pills known as recovery capsules, doses of which can heal external injuries, contain medical nanomachines.

Reasons for Nudity

HEY, ALPHA, YOU SAID THAT YOU WEREN'T WEARING CLOTHES WHEN WE FIRST MET...

...BECAUSE THAT MADE IT EASIER TO SPOT PEOPLE WHO COULD SEE YOU.

CHEW

MN"

MN"

CHEW

THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY. I CAN'T GAUGE PEOPLE'S REACTIONS AT ALL WHEN I DRESS NORMALLY.

BUT GOING AROUND NAKED IS STILL WEIRD, YOU KNOW?

THEN HOW ABOUT *THIS?*

YEAH, BUT DID YOU REALLY HAVE TO BE NAKED FOR THAT?

MUNCH

MN

MUNCH

I GOT A NICE, OBVIOUS RESPONSE OUT OF YOU, REMEMBER?

YIKES!

ダッシュ

BUT YOU WOULDN'T THINK OF TALKING TO ME IF I LOOKED LIKE THIS, RIGHT? YOU'D BE TOO NERVOUS.

THAT'S WAY TOO EXTREME!

TA-DA!

CHECK *THIS* OUT.

SPARKLE

GOING NAKED IS THE BEST WAY TO GET ATTENTION WHILE LETTING EVERYONE SEE THAT I'M NOT ARMED.

...

IF YOU'RE AUGMENTED REALITY OR WHATEVER, CAN YOU CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES AND GEAR HOW-EVER YOU WANT?

NOT JUST THOSE.

SPARKLE〜

HAIR LENGTH, CUP SIZE, AND EVERYTHING ELSE.

SPARKLE しゃ

AGE, APPEARANCE, ATTIRE.

ん

ら ら

SPARKLE

SO WHAT'S *YOUR* PREFER-ENCE?

WOW. ANYTHING GOES? THAT'S PRETTY AMAZING.

WELL?
AM I CUTE
OR WHAT?

ぴょん
!!OP
ぴょん
!!OP

HOW ABOUT
THIS?

ぴょん
!!OP

DON'T
ASK ME.

IF YOU'RE INTO THIS LOOK, I COULD STICK TO IT FROM NOW ON.

HOW I STARTED? ALL RIGHT.

NOT MY STYLE.

CHEW

モグ

モグ

CHEW

AND I'LL GET CONFUSED IF YOU KEEP CHANGING HOW OLD YOU LOOK.

SWITCH BACK TO HOW YOU STARTED.

BOOP

AREN'T YOU EVER SATISFIED?

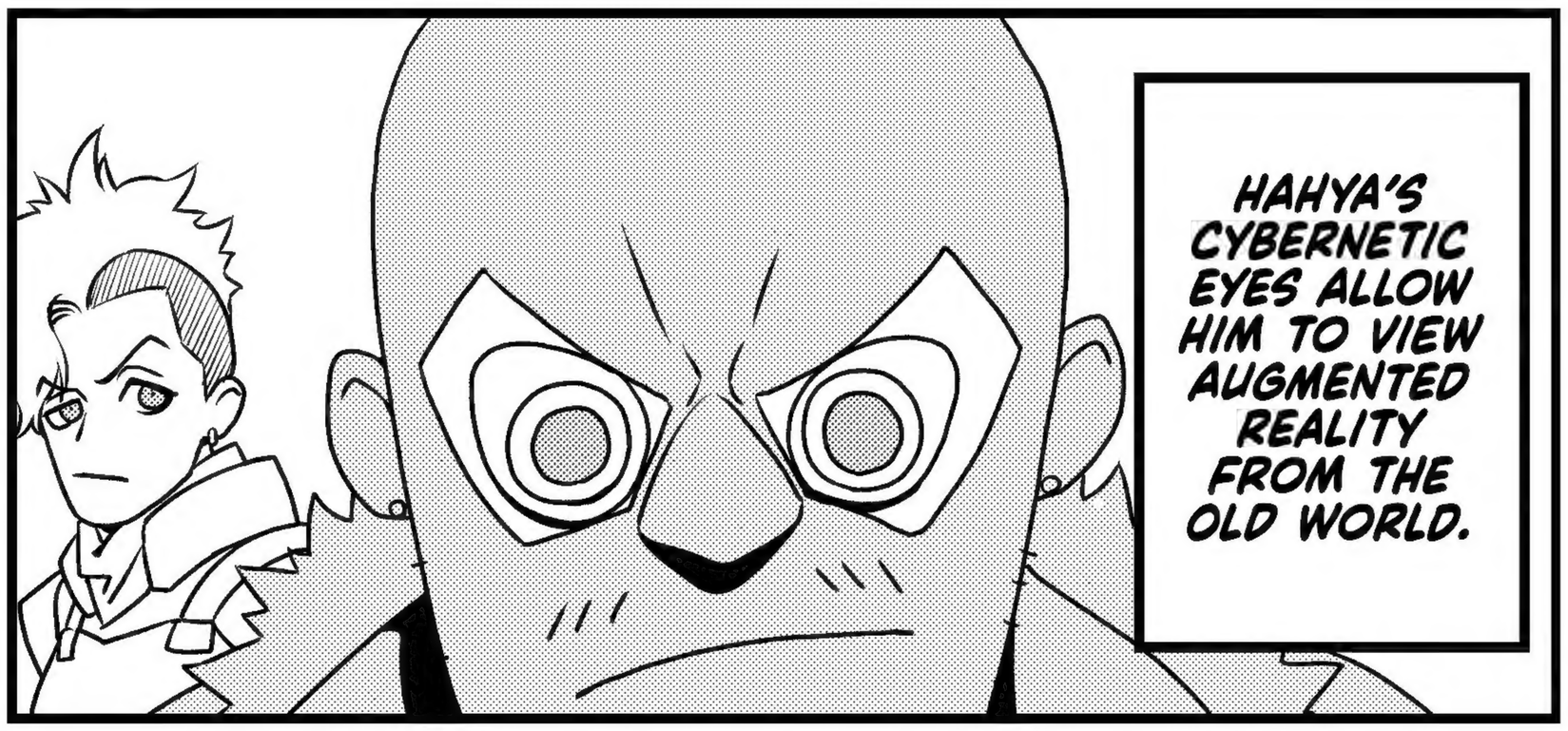
PUT SOME CLOTHES ON!

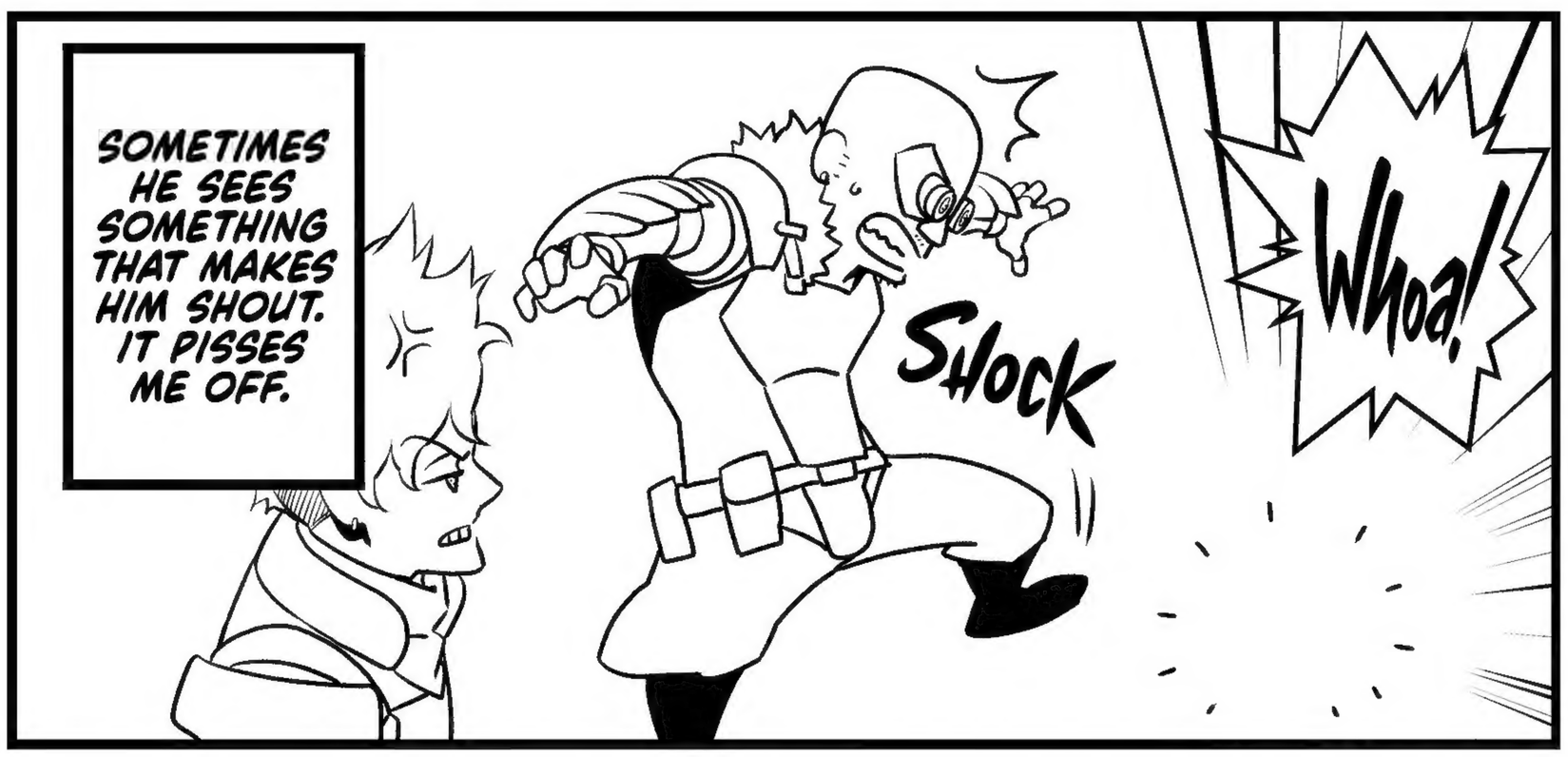
Afterword

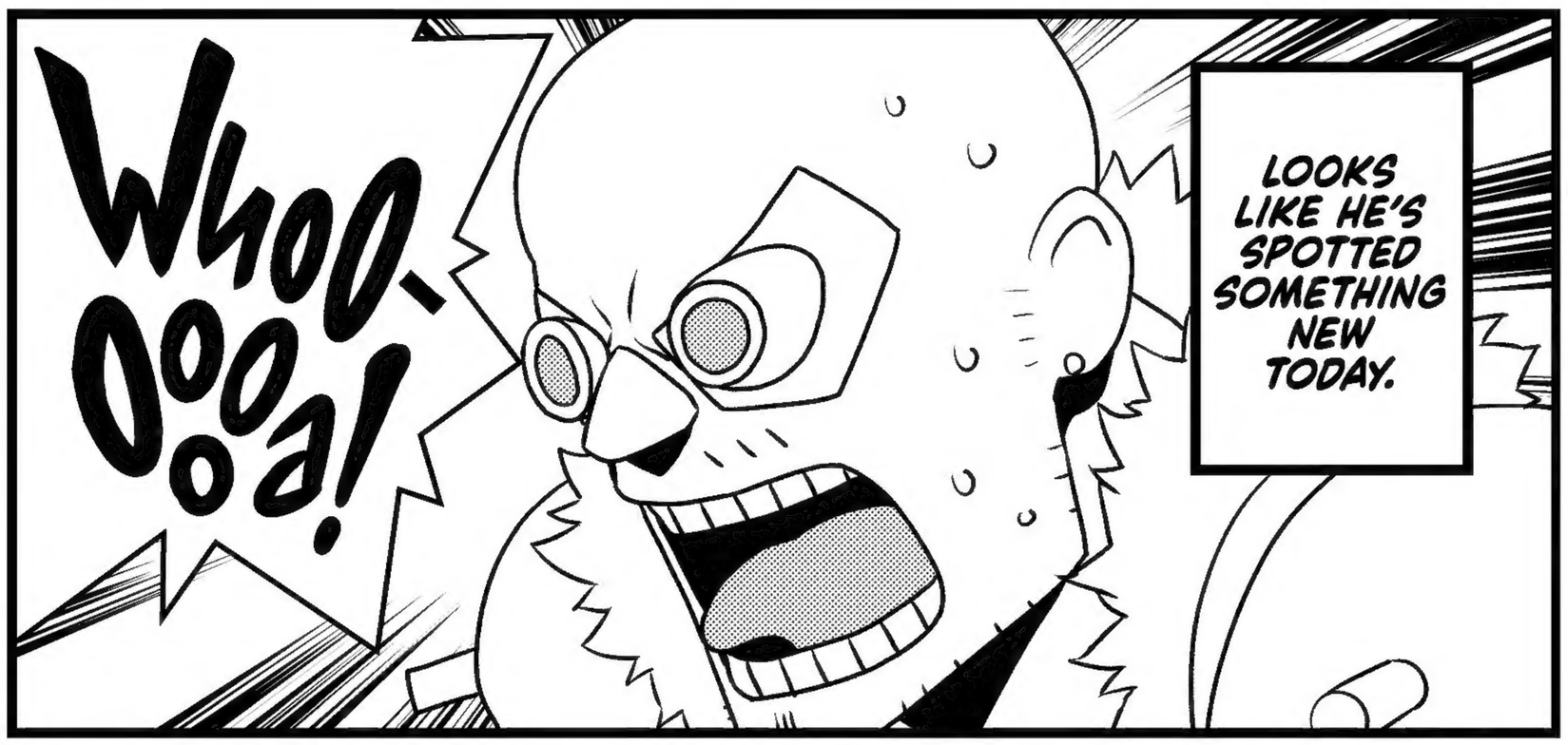
Thank you for reading volume one of the *Rebuild World* manga.
Akira is a boy from the slums, the weakest of the weak.
Alpha is a mysterious beauty with access to the advanced knowledge and technology of the Old World, a vanished civilization. They end up working together, each in pursuit of their own goals.
This fascinating series got its start on web novel sites like Kakuyomu, so years of writing have gone into its sprawling storyline. And its deep setting and quirky characters will draw you into that plot in no time.
On the surface, *Rebuild World* is the story of Akira's rise to prominence—but the way he does so is exceptional. That slum kid goes through incredible growth, although he still ends up pulling through by the skin of his teeth. I'm looking forward to capturing his death-defying life in manga form.
You can still read every chapter of *Rebuild World* for free (in Japanese) on Kakuyomu and other sites, and reading ahead in the novels might be another fun way to experience its world. The print edition is also on its third volume now. It's starting to show differences from the web version, so it's an interesting experience even if you've already read the story online. The books are packed with gorgeous illustrations by three different designers—a rarity for a light novel—so please check them out.
I hope this manga will be a gateway into the universe of *Rebuild World.*
Finally, I'd like to thank the original author, Nahuse; the character designer and illustrator, Gin; the environment artist, yish; the weapon and monster designer, cell; Morohoshi and naga, who helped with my drafts; my editor, Shibayama; all the many other people who helped me; and most of all, readers like you. I hope that you'll continue supporting me.

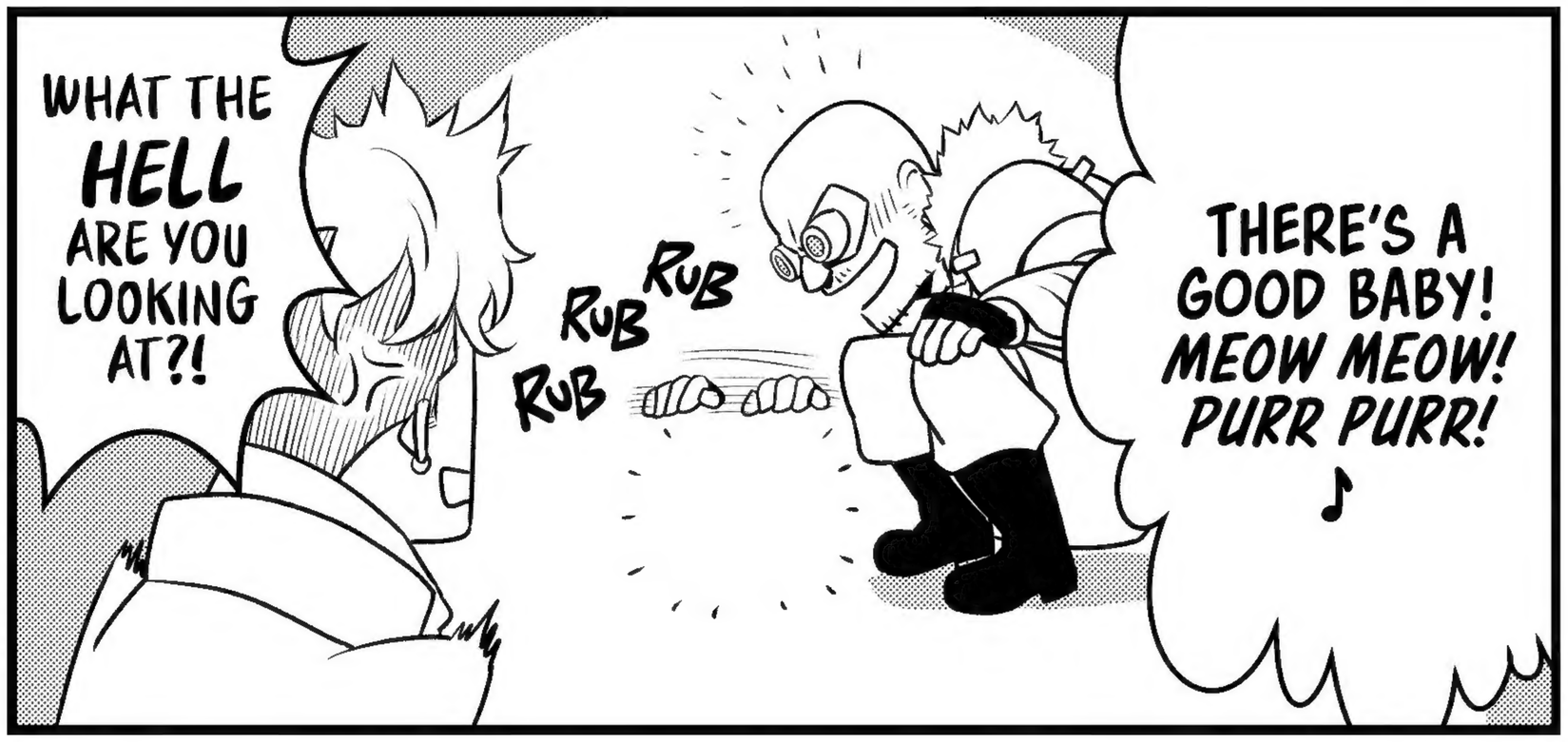
Rebuild World
Manga Version
Artist:
Kirihito Ayamura

Old World AR Signals

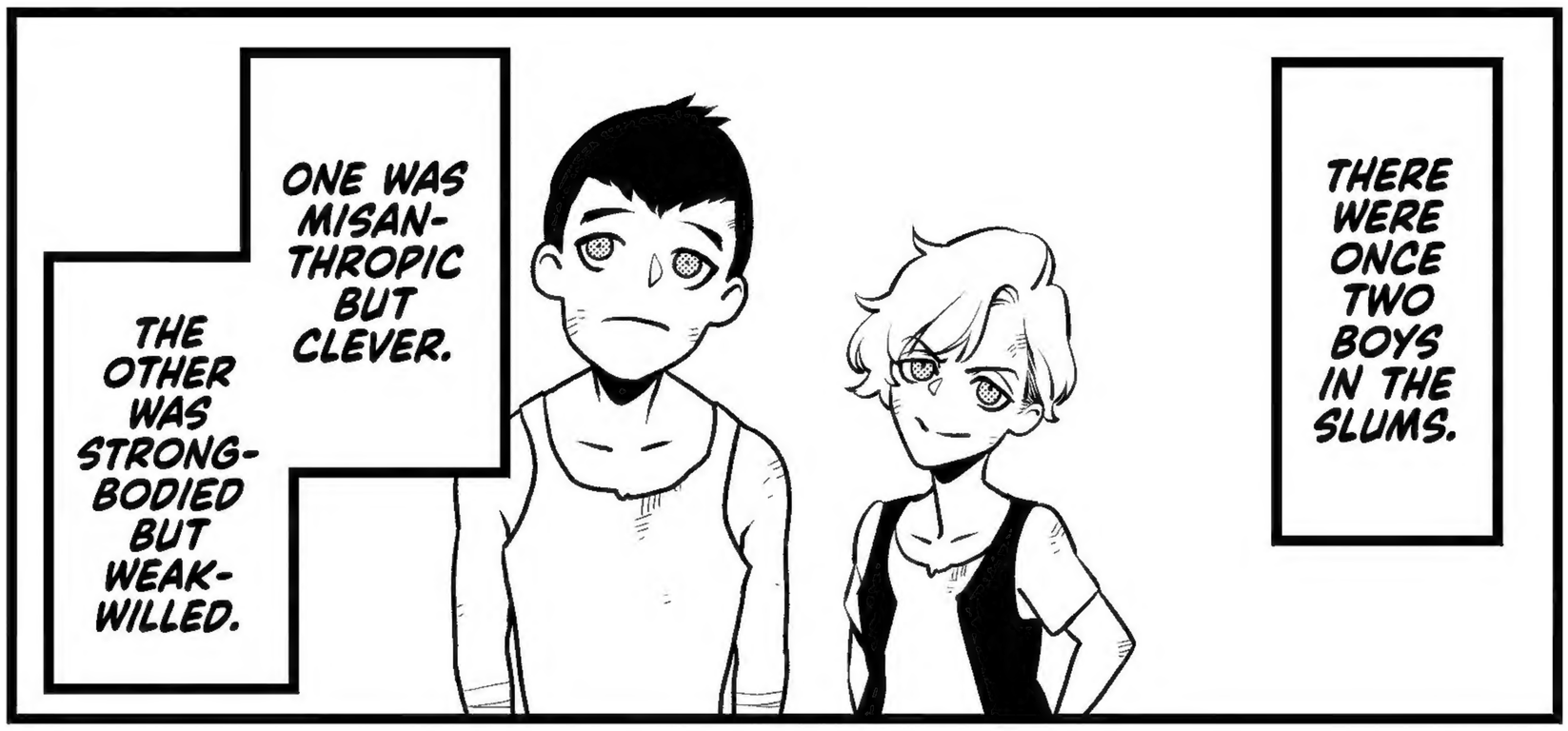


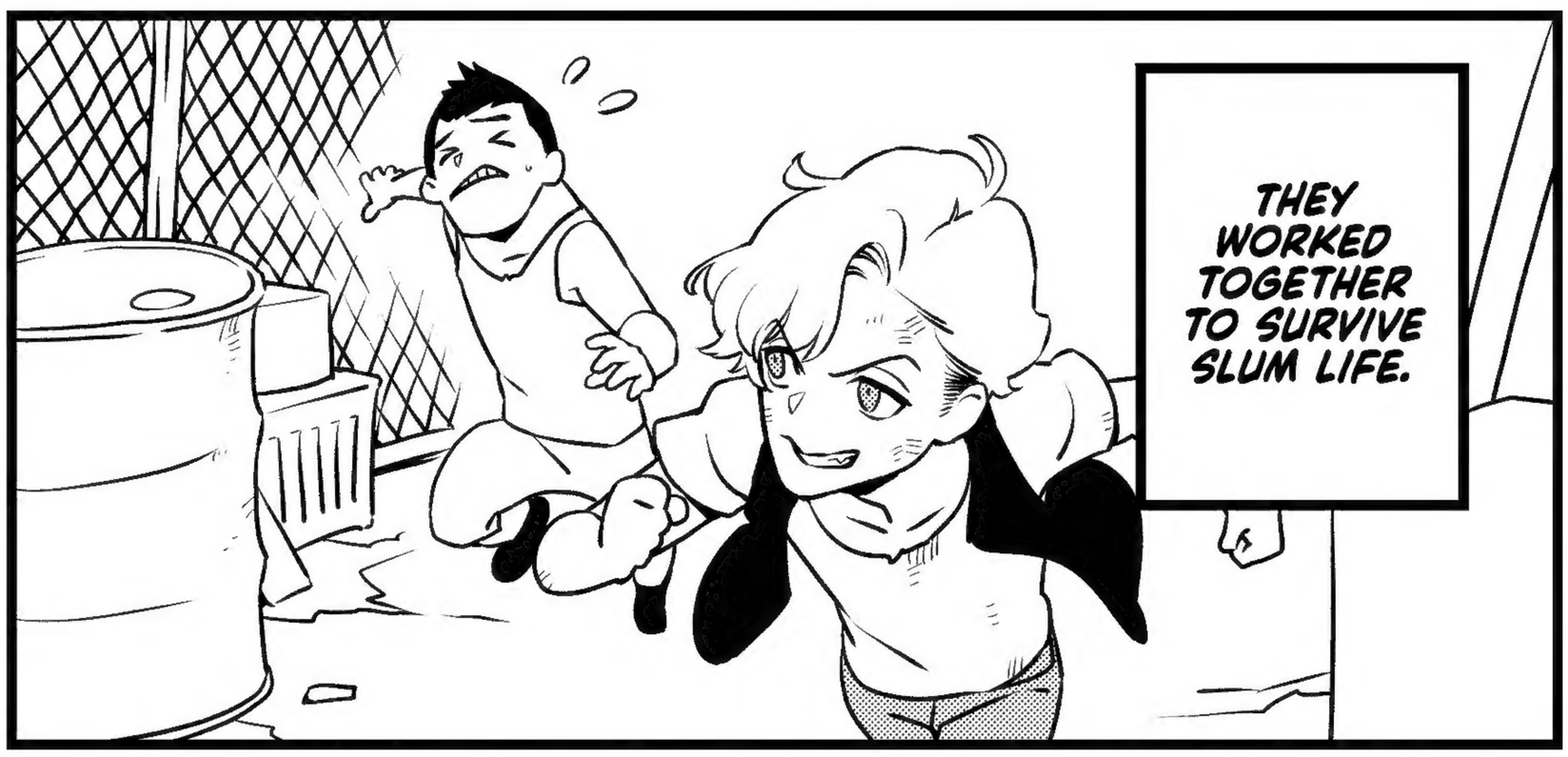


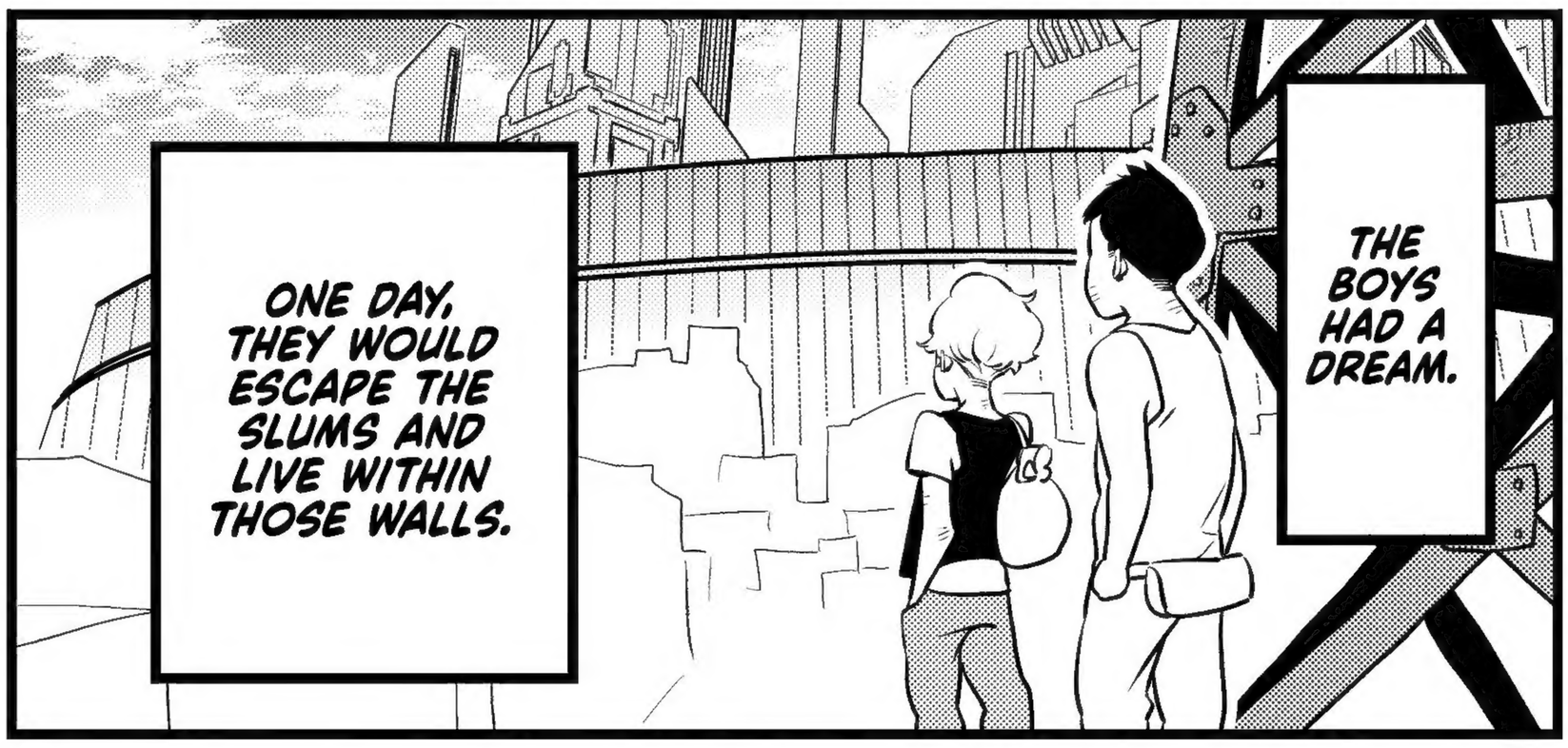


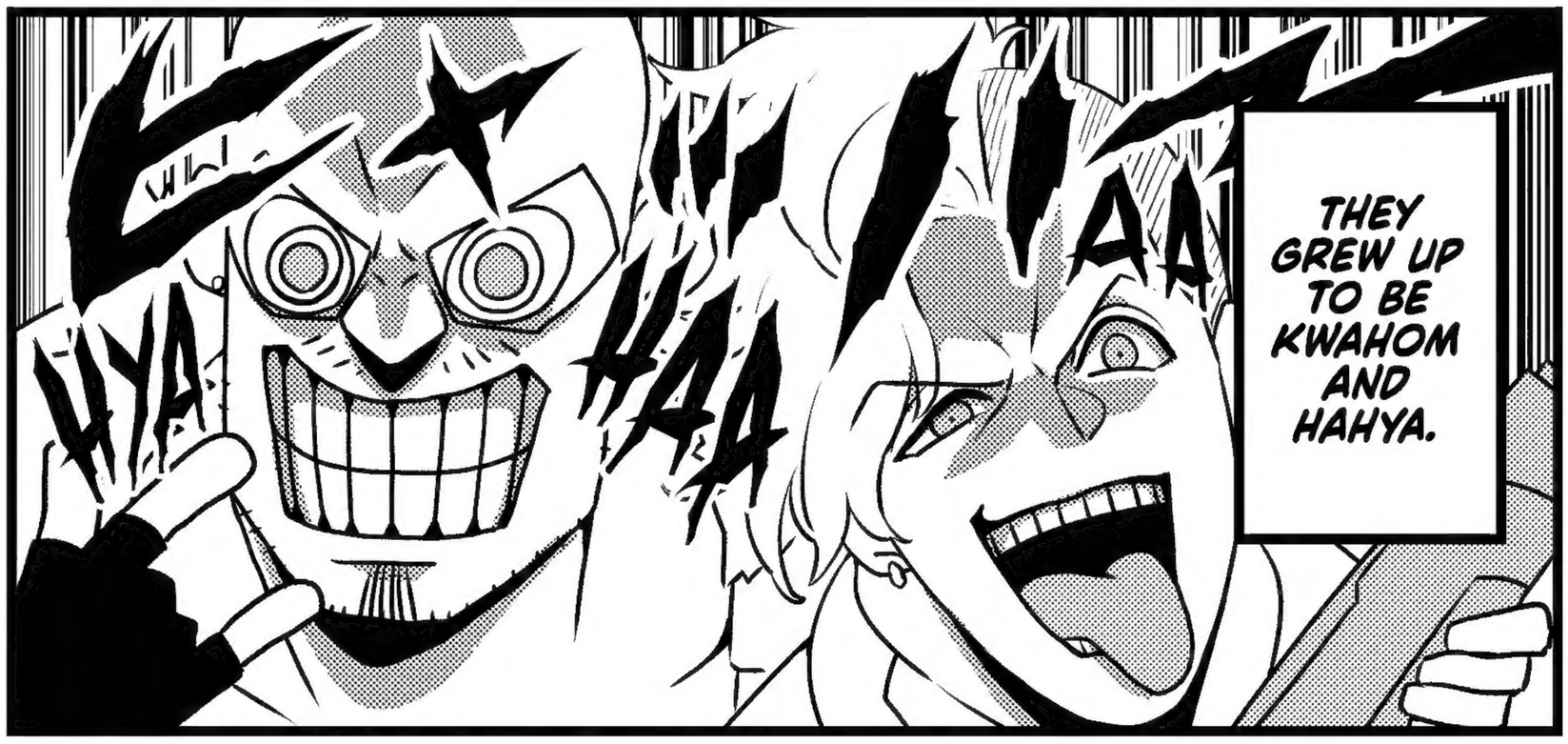


Two Boys


THERE WERE ONCE TWO BOYS IN THE SLUMS.
ONE WAS MISAN-THROPIC BUT CLEVER.
THE OTHER WAS STRONG-BODIED BUT WEAK-WILLED.


THEY WORKED TOGETHER TO SURVIVE SLUM LIFE.


ONE DAY, THEY WOULD ESCAPE THE SLUMS AND LIVE WITHIN THOSE WALLS.
THE BOYS HAD A DREAM.


HYA
HAA
HAA
THEY GREW UP TO BE KWAHOM AND HAHYA.

REBUILD WORLD Vol. 1
by Kirihito Ayamura (Manga), Nahuse (Original Work), Gin (Character Designer), yish (Environmental Artist), cell (Mechanical Designer)

Translated by William Varteresian
Edited by NegativePrimes
Lettered by Vadim K.

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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